



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
ARIZONA GIRLS STATE
COMMITTEE**

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

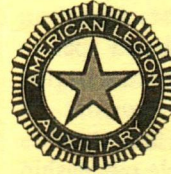
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**American Legion Auxiliary
Arizona
Girls State**

Rose Ficklin
President

**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Arizona**

**June 2-9, 2024
University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona**

A WEEK THAT SH

PURPOSE and OBJECTIVE

Girls State is a citizenship education program **privately sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Arizona** open to junior girls in high school. The American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program provides a nonpartisan participatory program that teaches eligible high school females responsible citizenship grounded in ethics, the principles of our nation's founders and respect for God and Country. It educates young women on the privileges, rights and duties of American citizenship in order to grasp an understanding of the responsibilities they will assume as adults. Girls State is a positive and tangible program in Americanism.

American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State was established by the American Legion Auxiliary in 1947, and is an annual program designed as a practical experience in self-government, based on Arizona State Government. Girls State is non-partisan and non-political, in that no existing party is promoted.

The purpose of American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State is threefold:

- To emphasize the importance of government in modern life.
- To educate young women in the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of American citizenship.
- To awaken a sincere conviction that a well informed, intelligent, participating citizenry is vitally needed to protect and preserve our American institutions and our democracy.

These goals are achieved by actual participation in a simulation of the political and governmental process.

American Legion Auxiliary Girls State is designed so that each citizen may participate in the programs electoral process, have an opportunity to hold public office and be encouraged to share in the formulation of public policy within the program.

Each citizen can be a definite and integral part in the function of American Legion Auxiliary Girls State and will have an opportunity of learning for herself that government is what she makes of it. It is the hope that American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State citizens will complete the program with a mature appreciation for the basic strengths and weaknesses of the American system of government. It is further hoped that these young women will have a firm resolution to make government an effective and responsible servant of the people, and that as citizens, they will exercise the many rights accorded them.

It is an honor and privilege not a **right** to be selected to attend Arizona Girls State. **A girl selected has the right to decline the invitation if uncomfortable with requirements and objectives/observances of the program. A girl is not forced to attend this Auxiliary program and attends with the full knowledge of what will be expected of her as a delegate.**

PERSONNEL AND SUPERVISION

The 2024 American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State program will represent 198 high schools in Arizona. The girls will live as self-governed citizens **with adult supervision** during the full period of Arizona Girls State. Arizona Girls State personnel are in attendance throughout the entire session. Capable women and counselors will supervise the delegates.

Citizens will not be allowed to leave the campus area assigned to Arizona Girls State as they are covered by Girls State insurance only when in these designated areas.

Any girl guilty of misconduct or leaving a designated area, except with the permission of the Girls State Director, will be subject to immediate dismissal and school notified of girl's action. Security of all participants is most important and practiced through established

PHASES A LIFETIME

American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State rules, policies and code of conduct.

SELECTION of PARTICIPANTS

Eligibility

Although Arizona Girls State is a program privately sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary, eligibility to attend is not confined to daughters or relatives of The American Legion family, military dependents or former alumnae.

A girl in the junior class of high school that meets the necessary qualifications and requirements is eligible TO BE CONSIDERED as a citizen of Arizona Girls State.

The basic qualifications for Arizona Girls State selection are leadership, scholarship and community service. Selection should also be based on **character** and excellence in leadership, scholarship or extra-curricular activities and achievements.

Girls State is strenuous, both physically and emotionally; therefore, ability to adequately cope with these conditions should be seriously considered.

Qualification Requirements

- A junior (11th grade) who will complete her senior year of high school and have at least one semester of high school remaining.
- May not have participated in a previous session of American Legion Auxiliary Girls State.
- Must be able to participate fully in all phases of the fast-paced program.
- Must remain for the entire session including the awards ceremony on Sunday morning.
- Should indicate an interest in government; be cooperative and have the ability to follow directives and established rule. **Must** attend one of the orientation .

- Notarized signature of parent or guardian on registration card. Signature of parent on medical form and media/bullying policy.
- **Required to report to her sponsoring Unit in writing or in person after attending.**
- Must provide own transportation to and from Arizona Girls State. Citizens driving cars to Arizona Girls State must turn their car keys into the Director and purchase a University of Arizona parking permit.
- **WILL NOT** be excused during the session or early for **testing, activities, appointments or classes.**
- The Director, prior to registration, must approve all special requests.

The Board of Directors of American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State may accept or reject any application for Girls State participation.

Since American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State is a privately funded/sponsored program receiving **NO** government funds, whose preamble states "For God and Country", citizens participate in flag ceremonies and show respect for non-denominational activity/prayer. **If a girl has a problem with these requests, maybe this is not the program for her.**

Medical Requirements

Medical information must be on file with Arizona Girls State Medical Personnel for each Delegate in case of illness or the need for emergency treatment. Each girl will have a wellness check-up by a health care provider **within the 3 weeks prior to attending Girls State**; the results recorded on the proper form and **turned in at registration.** **Sports or other physical examinations not done within 3 weeks of the session are not acceptable.**

Appointment for the check-up can and should be made in advance.

A girl may not be admitted without this medical form and if not in good health at the time she presents herself for admission.

Precaution will be taken to avoid accidents and illness. There will be registered camp nurses on duty 24 hours a day. In case of illness, or need to be seen by the nurse, the parent/guardian and/or doctor will be contacted immediately. Limited sickness and accident insurance coverage is provided. Arizona Girls State, and University of Arizona waives all liability for any illness or injury.

ACTIVITIES

Upon arrival each Delegate is a Citizen assigned to a mythical City, County and Political Party. There are four Counties, each composed of three Cities.

The Citizens are instructed in the duties of various public offices; learn the function of each office, its powers and limitation, including the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branches. The citizens then nominate and elect the various City, County and State officials from their peers. **It is learning by doing.** Arizona Girls State conforms to the structure of state government as specified by Arizona's state constitution.

Campaigning, pictures, Glee Club, Talent Show, Newspaper/Yearbook and Pizza Party are some of the scheduled activities.

GIRLS NATION

Climaxing the Arizona Girls State program is American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation. Arizona elects two Citizens to attend this program on the Federal government process. The two Citizens elected as Girls Nation Senators will attend a week-long trip to the Nation's Capital.

REGISTRATION FEE

The fee is \$400 for the week of Girls State. This fee includes **2 shirts, meals, housing room and all educational materials.**

NO ONE on staff receives any compensation from this fee. Registration and the fee which is **non-refundable** must accompany each application and sent to Unit Sponsor or Penny Maklary, Director of Arizona Girls State before **March 1, 2024.** Registrations received after March 1st may be charged a late fee and subject to limited bed space. Alternates are used as delegate replacements when necessary and are vital to the program. **All checks should be made payable to the AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY OR ARIZONA GIRLS STATE.**

SAMSUNG SCHOLARSHIP

Samsung Scholarship information:

www.legion.org

www.legion.org

Website... www.azgirlsstate.com

www.azgirlsstate.com



American Legion Auxiliary
Arizona
Girls State

Hello...

Please let us introduce ourselves. We are the American Legion Auxiliary, the oldest patriotic membership organization. We believe that training our youth about the basic ideals and principles of our system of government will help to ensure the survival of our republic. Through a unique citizenship-training program, Auxiliary members teach the youth of our nation to understand, comprehend and appreciate their roles as United States citizens. The program is called **AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY ARIZONA GIRLS STATE**. Many confuse us with **AMERICAN LEGION BOY STATE**. We are **two** separate and distinct organizations. This answers the question why we cannot send out the same information to promote our programs. The funding and requirements for each program are also different. Each program is held at a different University which has its own requirements. Both programs have the same premise of citizenship education but each are entities unto themselves.

For over seventy-five years, the American Legion Auxiliary has succeeded in giving girls the finest citizenship training program possible.

American Legion Auxiliary Girls State has grown from a few hundred participants to nearly 25,000 delegates annually. Each summer, these approximately 25,000 enthusiastic young women participate in American Legion Auxiliary Girls State sessions across the nation in each state. At Girls State, the "delegates" (girls selected to attend) study city, county and state government processes. They do this by setting up their own miniature city, county and state government and govern themselves according to the rules and procedure set by their particular state's laws. American Legion Auxiliary Girls State affords participants an opportunity to live together as self-governing citizens by informing them about the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of American citizenship. This learning experience will better familiarize the participant with their duties as United States citizens, and will encourage their participation in the democratic processes as they progress into adulthood.

The American Legion Auxiliary is solely responsible for the program's content and operation. American Legion Auxiliary Girls State receives **NO** financial government assistance. American Legion Auxiliary members provide a variety of different activities that encompass education, recreation and friendship. Junior Counselors, who were former Girls State citizens, return to share their knowledge and enthusiasm with the girls. Elected Officials provide first hand knowledge through speeches and activities. All work done before, during and in preparation for a Girls State session, **is done by volunteers...no one, from Director to Staff receives a salary or is paid** in the Girls State Program.

American Legion Auxiliary Girls State has provided a valuable learning experience for hundreds of thousands of accomplished women. They left Girls State less intimidated by government...able to see it for what it is ...ordinary people working for the betterment of society.

American Legion Auxiliary Arizona Girls State will be held June 2-9, 2024, on the campus of the University of Arizona in Tucson. The cost for a girl to attend is \$400.00, which covers the cost of her room, meals, educational material, 2 shirts and insurance. We hope you will consider becoming part of this very worthwhile program that is "**LAYING a SOLID FOUNDATION for a STRONGER TOMORROW**" through "**Learning by Doing**". If you would like for us to give a presentation or a former Girls State Citizen to speak and answer questions, we would be most happy to do so.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Penny Maklary

Penny Maklary...Arizona Girls State Director
alaazgirlsstate@gmail.com

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY GIRLS STATE

The American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program is a marquee program of the American Legion Auxiliary that has been training female high school students for civic leadership since 1937. Through a week-long "simulated government" immersive learning experience, America's future leaders assume roles in the fictional "National" and "Federal" political parties, run for and hold offices that mirror their state's elective offices, and in one jam-packed week learn fundamentals about the legislative process, the three branches of government and parliamentary procedure. Students selected to participate in this prestigious program learn life-long lessons in leadership grounded in civility, teamwork, advocacy, consensus-building and respect. They have fun. They make lasting friendships. They leave enriched, using what they learn throughout their lives for the betterment of our country.

American Legion Auxiliary Girls State is a nonpartisan participatory program that teaches young women responsible citizenship grounded in ethics, the principles of our nation's founders and respect of God and Country. American Legion Auxiliary Girls State is among the nation's most respected educational programs of government instruction and leadership development for U.S. high-school students.

Since the inception of the ALA Girls State program in 1937, nearly one million young women have had the opportunity to learn firsthand how their state and local government work. The program has grown from a few hundred participants to some 25,000 annually.

The American Legion sponsors a separate but similar program for young men called American Legion Boys State, first established in 1935. Currently, both American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State programs operate in all states.

High-school juniors are selected and sponsored by American Legion Auxiliary units to participate in the program. Local businesses or community organizations may help contribute to participants' expenses. Because the structure of state and local government varies from state to state, American Legion Auxiliary Girls State programs may vary in content and method of procedure, but each adheres to the same basic core values in teaching government from the township to the state level.

Female students who demonstrate leadership, character, scholarship, loyalty and service in their school and community should be considered. ALA Girls State participants are to be selected on the basis of merit and ability.

Girls State brochure and other printed material provide further explanation of the program.